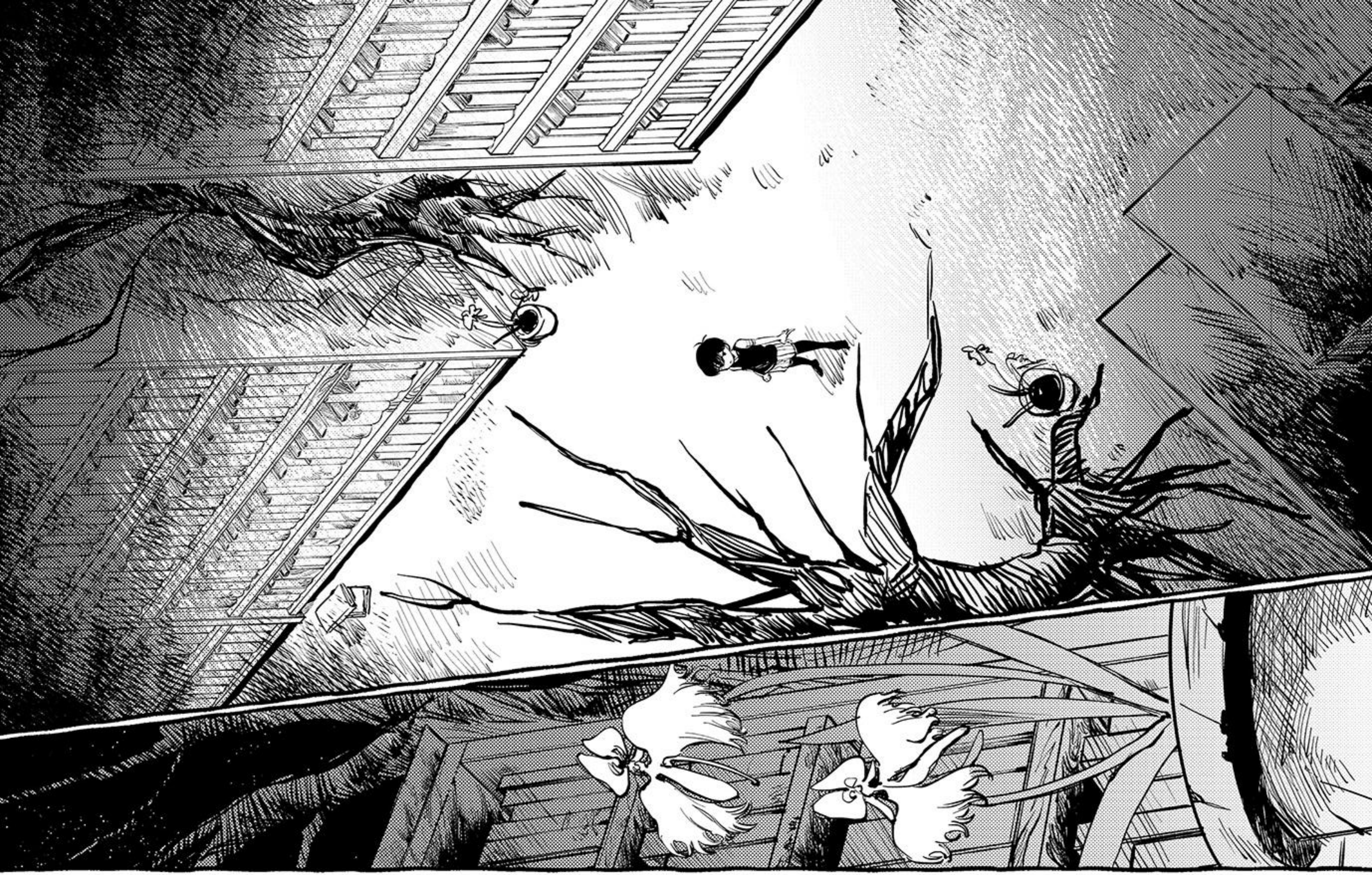
AAAAAAH!!

Chapter 8: Lost Library

OMORI!!

Warning: This chapter contains depictions of suicide attempts and suicidal ideation. If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts or feelings, you are not alone, and there is help. In the United States, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988 or go to 988lifeline.org. Otherwise, visit findahelpline.com.



○/△
THIS CHRISTMAS, □ WAS GIFTED A NEW VIOLIN BY HIS FRIENDS.

FINGERS SHAKING, HE PULLS THE BOW AND PLAYS HIS FIRST NOTE IN A LONG TIME...

THE CRISP SOUND SURPRISES HIM AT FIRST, BUT HE DOESN'T MIND...

HE WANTS TO DO WELL, BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT EVERYONE BELIEVES IN HIM.

AND NO MATTER WHAT...

...HE WON'T EVER DISAPPOINT THEM.

▽/☆

ONE BY ONE, THEY FELL ASLEEP ON THE TRAIN RIDE HOME.

IT WAS A LONG DAY AT THE BEACH, AFTER ALL.

□'S HEAD ACCIDENTLY DROPS ONTO □□□□□□'S SHOULDER.

□□□ WAS THE FIRST TO NOD OFF, THEN THE REST.

EVERYONE WAS EXHAUSTED.

THE SUDDEN JOLT WAKES HIM, BUT HE DOESN'T DARE OPEN HIS EYES.

HE STEADIES HIS BREATHING.

HE PRETENDS TO BE ASLEEP AND LISTENS INTENTLY TO THE SOUNDS AROUND HIM.

HE IS HAPPY. VERY, VERY HAPPY. AND WILL REMEMBER THIS MOMENT FOREVER.

HE FEELS THE SOFT SUN RESTING ON HIS SKIN...

...AND THE SLIGHT TINGE OF PAIN ON HIS NOSE FROM TOMORROW'S SUNBURN.

◇/◁

IT WAS A HOT, SUMMER DAY.

THE SUN MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PLAY AT THE USUAL HANGOUT SPOT...

SO AT THE TIME, BUILDING A TREEHOUSE IN THE SHADE OF HIS BACKYARD SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA.

ALL DAY, □ WATCHED □□□□ LUG PLANKS OF WOOD BACK AND FORTH FROM HIS DAD'S PICKUP TRUCK.

HE WATCHED □□□ HAMMER HIS FINGERS OVER AND OVER.

HE MADE NOTE THAT OVER AN HOUR HAS PASSED SINCE □□□□ HAS CLIMBED DOWN HER LADDER.

□ SIGHS DEEPLY AS HE SITS SLEEPILY IN THE SHADE OF HIS FAVORITE TREE...

IN A FEW MOMENTS, HIS FRIENDS WOULD BE ASKING FOR HELP.

□□□□□ AND □□□□□□ HAD SPLATTERED PAINT ON THE LAWN.

IT JUST HAD TO BE ON THE HOTTEST DAY OF SUMMER.

HE KNOWS HE SHOULD PUT IN HIS FAIR SHARE.

☐ SLIDES UP RELUC-TANTLY AND WOBBLES HIS WAY TO THE MESS.

●/★ EVERYONE IS OVER AGAIN TODAY.

THE SPECIAL OCCASION IS SATURDAY MORNING.

HE FEELS SOMETHING CRAWLING ON HIS SHOULDER AND HIS EYES FLY OPEN TO MEET WITH THOSE OF A BLACK SPIDER.

IN AN INSTANT, □ LOSES ALL SENSE AND HURLS HIMSELF INTO THE LAKE.

WATER FILLS HIS NOSE. HE EXERTS HIS LIMBS, BUT THE WATER IS STRONGER.

HE'S TOO WEAK, TOO HELPLESS... □ SHUTS HIS EYES...AND WAITS FOR THE BROTHERS TO SAVE HIM.

□/▷ A STRANGE STATUE WATCHES OVER THE HIDDEN LAKE. THOUGH IT MIGHT MEAN SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT- TODAY, A PAIR OF BOYS ARE USING IT AS A DIVING BOARD.

THE BROTHERS GLEEFULLY URGE THEIR FRIEND TO JOIN THEM, AND AFTER SOME CAREFUL THOUGHT, WARILY AGREES.

□ SHUFFLES UP THE STATUE, AND LOOKS DOWN AT THE MOVING WATER.

HE CAN HEAR HIS HEARTBEAT. HIS EARS BEGIN TO RING.

INTO HIS OWN WORLDS, HIS OWN STORIES, HIS OWN ADVENTURES.

HE HAD A HABIT OF DOING THIS. IT WAS EASY FOR HIM TO GET LOST.

SUDDENLY, A HAND PLAYFULLY SLAPS HIS BACK, SNAPPING HIM OUT OF HIS REVERIE. IT'S □□□. HE MOTIONS THAT CLASS IS OVER AND THAT IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR LUNCH.

HIS MIND DRIFTED ELSEWHERE...

HE WATCHED THE SHADOWS OF THE TREES, THE CLOUDS CREEPING OVERHEAD.

THIS YEAR, □ WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET ASSIGNED TO A DESK NEXT TO THE SMALL WINDOW.

EVERY DAY DURING CLASS, □ WOULD GAZE LISTLESSLY THROUGH THE OPENING...

FROM 7:00AM TO 11:00AM, A GROUP OF SIX FRIENDS EAT A DELICIOUS HOMEMADE BREAKFAST AND WATCH T.V. TOGETHER.

☐ LOOKS AT THE CLOCK. 8:00AM.

TWO HOURS LEFT.

HIS TUTOR WILL ARRIVE AT 10:00AM.

INSTEAD OF WATCHING THE SHOWS WITH THE REST OF HIS FRIENDS, HE'LL BE THE ONLY ONE TO MISS OUT.

☐ HE HAD HOPED THIS WOULD BE A PLEASANT WAY TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH HIS SISTER.

BUT IT'S BECOME NOTHING MORE THAN A NUISANCE.

IF ONLY HE COULD WATCH THE LAST HOUR WITH EVERYONE ELSE. IF ONLY HE DIDN'T HAVE TO PLAY THE VIOLIN...

SHUDDER

THMP

...UNNY...

DO YOU...

...REMEM-BER?

GRIP

ZZZ

SHA

AH... YOU FINALLY FOUND ME...

I'M GLAD...

SO... LOOK EVEN DEEPER...

FALL EVEN FURTHER...

AND REMEM-BER.

GRAB

EVERY-THING... YOU'VE HIDDEN... IS HERE...

PLEASE... DON'T FOR-GET ME...

SO PLEASE... DON'T DO THIS...

IT HURTS SO MUCH...

...UNNY... IT... HURTS...

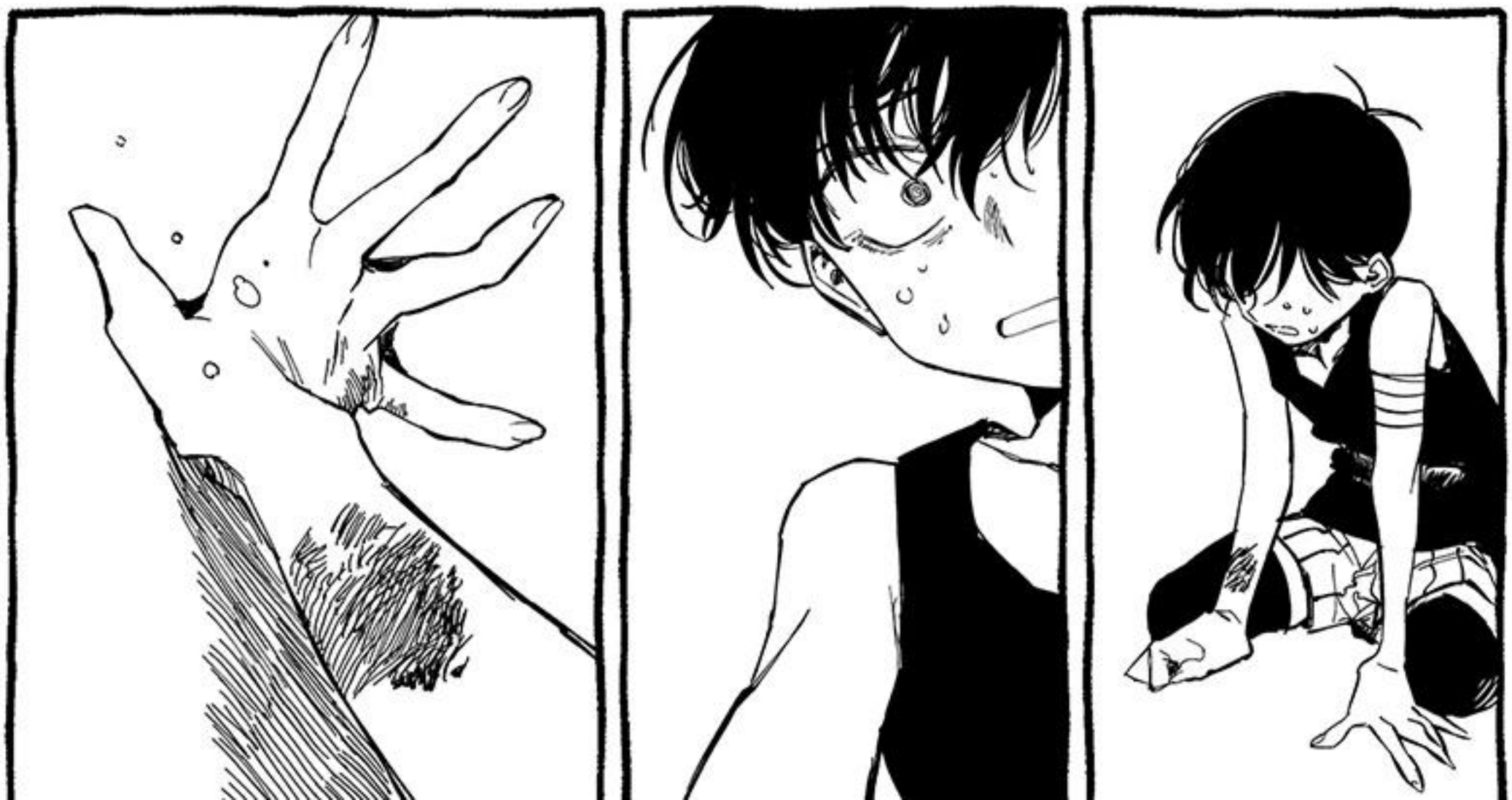
PLEASE... DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE-

Z Z

S

TH-ROB

TH-ROB



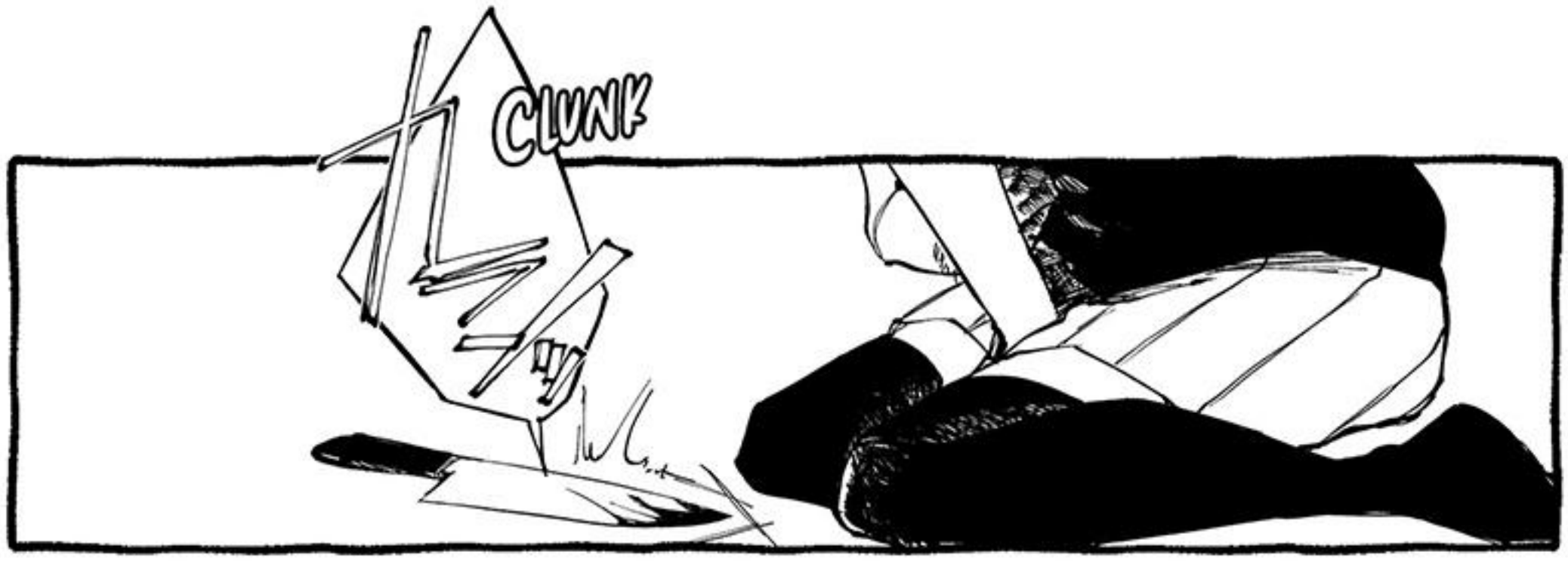
CLUNK

BDMP

BDMP

BDMP

STAB


CLUNK

2 DAYS LEFT...

YOU'RE AWAKE, SUNNY!

HOW'S YOUR HEAD? YOU ALRIGHT?

YOU HAD ME WORRIED OUT OF MY BRAINS!

AND I ENDED UP CARRYING YOU BACK TO MY PLACE.

POLLY FOUND YOU COLLAPSED AT BASIL'S HOUSE YESTERDAY...

ANYWAY...

IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE YOU'VE BEEN IN MY ROOM, SUNNY.

I WAS ABOUT THE CALL THE HOSPITAL... BUT I GUESS I DON'T HAVE TO NOW.

EEP!

KEL!!

HERO'S COMING BACK TODAY, SO-

SO PLEASE, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!

M-MOM...

I SWEAR I JUST CLEANED THIS ROOM YESTERDAY, BUT IT'S A MESS AGAIN!

GOODNESS, THERE'S DIRTY CLOTHES EVERYWHERE!

TODAY'S A SPECIAL DAY, BUT YOU'VE EVEN BROUGHT A GUEST WITHOUT TELLING ME!

OR DID YOU LOSE THE GROCERIES LIST AGAIN?

WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO HELP BUY GROCERIES FOR TONIGHT'S DINNER?

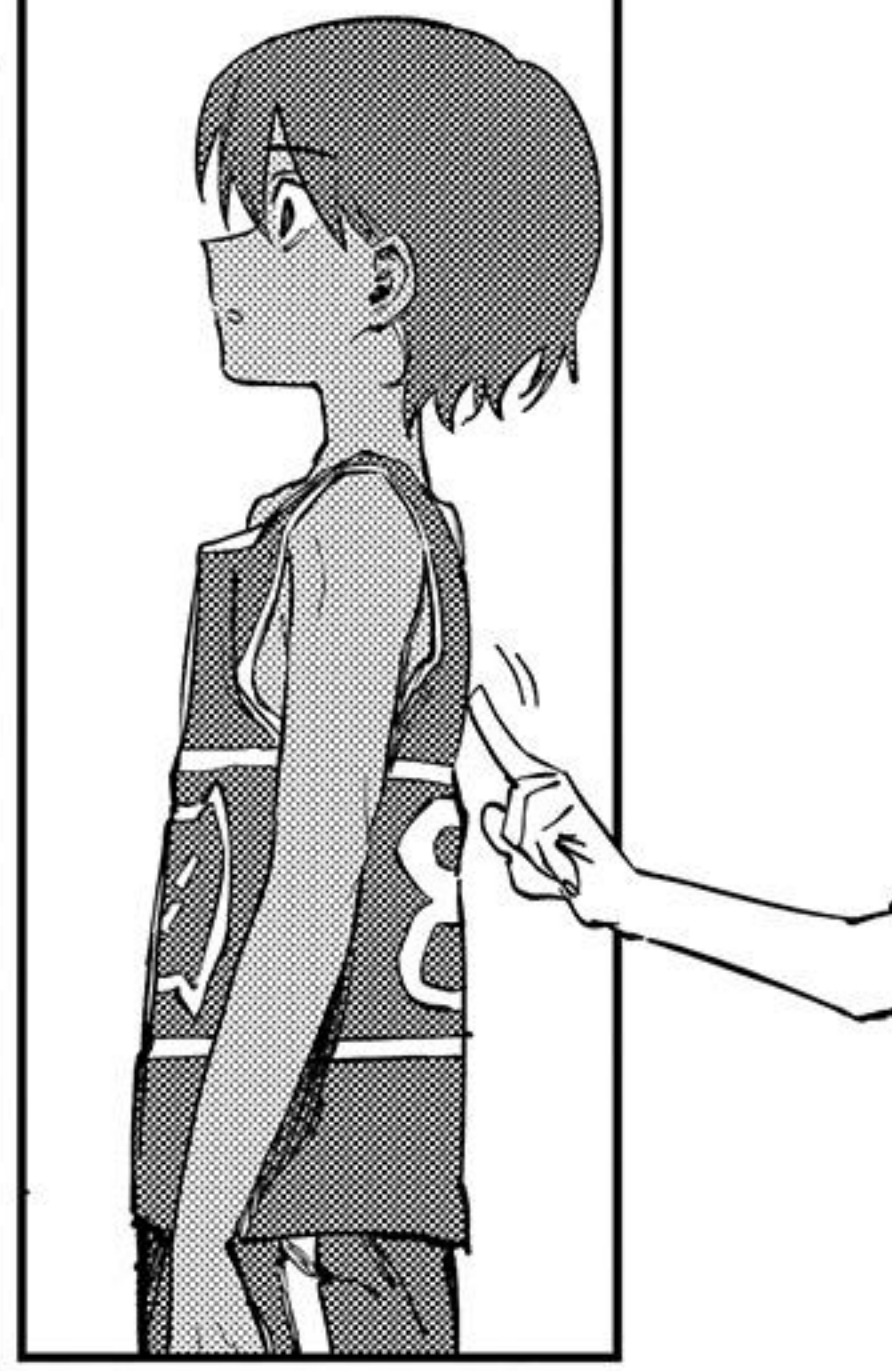
I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING YOUR BEST, BUT...

PLEASE TRY TO BE MORE LIKE YOUR BROTHER.

I WILL.

YES, MOM...

CLACK



YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME? THEN, HOW ABOUT WE GO OUT IN A SEC?
WHAT'S WITH THE FACE, SUNNY?
I'M THINKING WE SHOULD CHECK UP ON BASIL ANYWAY.

SO I JUST WANNA SEE IF HE'S DOING OKAY.

HE DIDN'T LOOK SO GOOD LAST NIGHT...

HUH?!

BASIL IS MISSING?!

YES...

HE LEFT EARLY THIS MORNING AND HASN'T COME BACK HOME YET...

UHH... IS HE ALL RIGHT?

HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE HIS USUAL SELF, SO I TRIED TO STOP HIM.

BUT HE LEFT WITHOUT SAYING A WORD...

YEAH, WE'RE FREE ALL DAY ANY-WAY!

R-REALLY?

SUNNY AND I CAN LOOK FOR HIM!

DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING!

IT'S NOT JUST THAT...

IT'S ALL GOOD! AFTER ALL, YOU GOTTA KEEP WATCH ON BASIL'S GRANDMA.

THANK YOU... I'D LIKE TO GO FIND HIM MYSELF, BUT...

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF CARETAKER I AM IF I CAN'T EVEN EARN HIS TRUST?

I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT BASIL DOESN'T REALLY TRUST ME...

LEAN

DON'T SAY THAT! YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB, POLLY!

THINGS WILL WORK OUT... YOU'LL SEE!

WE'LL FIND BASIL AND BRING HIM HOME!

THANK YOU, KEL...

I THINK BASIL WAS HEADING TOWARDS THE PARK...

SHOUT OUT IF YOU'RE OUT HERE!

BASIL!

WHERE ARE YOU!?

WHOOSH

IT'S LIKE HE JUST DISAP-PEARED...

MAN... WHERE COULD HE BE?

DID YOU HEAR THAT...?

COULD IT BE BASIL?

THIS AREA... IT'S CLOSE TO...

OUR HANGOUT SPOT!!

WE SHOULD COME HERE FOR A PICNIC ALL THE TIME!

I COULD EAT THEM FOREVER!

MARI'S COOKIES HAVE SO LOVE BAKED INTO THEM...

LOOK! I BUILT SWEETHEART'S CASTLE OUT OF SAND!!

MAN, HOW IS IT SO HOT ALREADY? WE SHOULD GO SWIMMING!

I KNOW! WHY DON'T WE BUILD A TREEHOUSE IN SUNNY'S BACK-YARD?

TAKE A PHOTO OF ME...

I'M GOING TO JUMP IN NOW, OKAY?

BASIL!

BASIL, ARE YOU THERE!?

SWOOSH

STOP !!

SOME-
BODY...
HELP
!!!

AUBREY ?!

...BASIL!